

## WCRM-GEIS1CEm Resource

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**From:** Sierra Club [information@sierraclub.org] on behalf of Doretta Reisenweber [dorierduluth@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 23, 2013 12:25 AM  
**To:** RulemakingComments Resource  
**Subject:** Protect our communities from radioactive waste!

Sep 22, 2013

Allison McFarlane

Dear McFarlane,

I am writing you because I am concerned about how we store our most hazardous waste--- the radioactive fuel rods from nuclear reactors. We should not license or re-license any reactor until it has been proven that we can successfully isolate this waste. The NRC should regulate the nuclear industry, not accommodate it. Protect the environment.

While we are working on the solution, it is important to take note that many of our nuclear reactors have over-crowded fuel pools on site. This situation presents safety threats to the communities and industries surrounding the nuclear plants. The NRC should take immediate action to reduce the number of fuel assemblies in the water-filled pools. Prior to transfer of the fuel rods to cask storage, the cask storage should be examined and reinforced in order to safely store the fuel rods, especially those that qualify as high-burn-up fuel. Hardened on-site storage of the casks should be the choice for storage.

Consider, too, the sustainability--rather the lack of sustainability-- of nuclear power. The EIS must evaluate the true costs of nuclear power after subsidies are stripped away. The long-term costs of decommissioning need to be considered as well. The ongoing costs to US taxpayers should be clear in this EIS.

Finally, the EIS should consider the option of not making any nuclear waste at all in the future. Just compare the environmental footprint of nuclear power from mining to disposal of radioactive waste with that of renewables and energy efficiency. You'll agree, the latter is the better deal in the long run.

Yours for a better and safer tomorrow.

Sincerely,

Doretta Reisenweber  
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